

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/003381

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-8, 13, 14, 16-21, 25, 26, 28, 29

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

There is disclosed a knitting machine (80) comprising: at least one knitting needle (88); at least one positive yarn feed device (84) for feeding yarn (82) to said at least one knitting needle; needle monitoring means for providing information relating to the at least one knitting needle (88) during the course of a knitting operation; and a controller for controlling the operation of the positive yarn feed device; in which the controller is adapted to: receive information from the needle monitoring means during the course of a knitting operation; use said information to calculate a desired amount of yarn to be fed to a knitting needle; and control the positive yarn feed device so that the positive yarn feed device feeds the desired amount of yarn to the knitting needle during the course of the knitting operation.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1, 2, 16-18, 28

Apparatus and method with needle monitoring

1.1. claim: 3

Apparatus and method according to 1 with special drive means

1.2. claims: 4-8, 19-21, 29

Apparatus and method according to 1 with cam / stitch length adjustment

1.3. claims: 13, 14, 25, 26

Apparatus and method according to 1 with yarn tension measurement means

2. claims: 9-12, 15, 22-24, 27

Apparatus and method according to 1 with fabric take down means

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 D04B15/48

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 D04B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 327 499 A (RICHARD SCHMIDT ET AL) 27 June 1967 (1967-06-27)	1,17
Y	column 5, line 4 - column 6, line 64; figures 1-3 ----- US 5 174 133 A (KAWASE YOJI ET AL) 29 December 1992 (1992-12-29) column 2, line 14 - line 34 column 4, line 22 - line 28 column 5, line 7 - column 6, line 13; claim 1; figures 2,7,8 -----	4,5,8, 13,14, 19-21, 25,26,29 4,5,8, 13,14, 19-21, 25,26,29
Y		-/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 October 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

15.02.2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Uhlig, R

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(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 36 29 699 A (SCHWABE CHRISTIAN) 10 March 1988 (1988-03-10) page 2, line 20 - line 22; claims 1,2 -----	1-8,13, 14, 16-21, 25,26, 28,29

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/003381

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3327499	A	27-06-1967	DE BE CH FR GB NL	1585198 A1 652374 A 431793 A 1405033 A 1078073 A 6409970 A	10-12-1970 01-03-1965 15-03-1967 02-07-1965 02-08-1967 07-01-1966
US 5174133	A	29-12-1992	JP JP	2892392 B2 3090663 A	17-05-1999 16-04-1991
DE 3629699	A	10-03-1988	DE	3629699 A1	10-03-1988